

Readability Practice (10 points)

Book and author _____

Passage 1 – page # or #'s _____

Number of sentences _____

Number of syllables _____

Passage 2 – page # or #'s _____

Number of sentences _____

Number of syllables _____

Passage 3 – page # or #'s _____

Number of sentences _____

Number of syllables _____

Total number of sentences _____

Divided by 3 = average number of sentences _____

Total number of syllables _____

Divided by 3 = average number of sentences _____

Grade level of book, according to the Fry Readability Graph _____

The **Fry readability formula** (or **Fry readability graph**) is a readability metric for English texts, developed by Edward Fry.

The grade reading level (or reading difficulty level) is calculated by the average number of sentences (y-axis) and syllables (x-axis) per hundred words. These averages are plotted onto a specific graph; the intersection of the average number of sentences and the average number of syllables determines the reading level of the content.

The formula and graph are often used to provide a common standard by which the readability of documents can be measured. It is sometimes used for regulatory purposes, such as in healthcare, to ensure publications have a level of readability that is understandable and accessible by a wider portion of the population.

Formula

To calculate a grade level score:

1. Randomly select three separate 100 word passages. (Count every word including proper nouns, initializations, and numerals.)
2. Count the number of sentences in each 100 word sample (estimate to nearest tenth).
3. Count the number of syllables in each 100 word sample. (Each numeral is a syllable. For example, 2007 is 4 syllables and one word.)
4. Plot the average sentence length and the average number of syllables on the graph.
5. The area in which it falls is the approximate grade

FRYGRAPH

Fry graph for readability; grade levels

y: average number of sentences per hundred words; x: average number of syllables per hundred words

